

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-6, 9-15, 17-21, and 24-30 remain in this application. Claims 6, 14, 20, 24, and 25 have been amended without prejudice as suggested in the Office Action and new claims 27-30 have been added. Support for the amendments to claims can be found throughout the specification and claims, e.g., page 9, line 30 of the specification. Accordingly, no issues of new matter are believed to be raised by the above amendments to the claims.

Rejections Under 35 USC 112, Second Paragraph

I

Claims 6, 20, and 21 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for using the phrases “less than about” and “greater than about.” See page 2 of the Office Action. Applicants respectfully disagree. However, in the interests of furthering this application to allowance, Applicants have amended claims 6 and 20 to remove these terms and replace them with the term “between.” Claim 21 does not recite either of these two objected to terms. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection under 35 USC 112 be withdrawn.

II

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for using the phrase “derivatives.” See page 3 of the Office Action. Applicants respectfully disagree. However, in the interests of furthering this application to allowance, Applicants have amended claims 6 and 20 to remove this term and replace the term with the propionic acid derivative NSAIDs ibuprofen, naproxen, or ketoprofen. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection under 35 USC 112 be withdrawn.

Claim Objections

Claims 24-26 were objected to for depending on a cancelled claim. See Page 4 of the Office Action. Claims 24 and 25 have been amended to now depend from pending claim 1. Claim 26 depends from claim 24, which is pending. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the amended claims in light of the above remarks and an early Notice of Allowance are courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned Attorney at the below-listed number.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 10-0750/MCP5021/WEM.

Respectfully submitted,

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